

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

June 17, 2003

Los Angeles County has more people living with AIDS today than ever before. At least 28,014 Los Angeles County residents are known to have died from AIDS. Los Angeles County has at least 17,227 individuals known to be living with AIDS, an estimated 36,000 individuals living with HIV, the County estimates as many as 2,000 new HIV infections every year more, and more than a third of all people with AIDS in the State of California were diagnosed with AIDS while living in Los Angeles County.

Over forty percent of all African Americans living with AIDS in the State of California were diagnosed with AIDS while living in Los Angeles County and almost half of all Latinos living with AIDS in the State of California were diagnosed with AIDS while living in Los Angeles County. For the year 2002, African-Americans and Latinos accounted for almost 70 percent of all AIDS cases diagnosed and 58 percent of all AIDS cases associated with male-to-male sex.

Voluntary counseling, education, testing, referral, and partner notification programs provide people an opportunity to learn their HIV status, receive counseling

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
BURKE	_____

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about any behavior changes needed to avoid infection and transmission of HIV to others, receive referrals to additional prevention and medical care. Recent medical advances in HIV treatment show that early diagnosis and treatment can prolong and improve the lives of persons living with HIV and AIDS;

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

- 1) Proclaim June 23 through 27, 2003, as "HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING DAYS" in Los Angeles County as promoted by the Department of Health Services Office of AIDS Programs and Policy; and
- 2) Urge all community-based organizations and medical providers to become aware of the importance of HIV counseling and testing and lend their full support to this campaign; and
- 3) Urge all individuals to understand HIV transmission, assess their risk for HIV infection, and get tested.

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YBB:PM:jt3(HIVTesting)

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